Digital Scriptorium

Bloomington, Indiana University, Bloomington, Lilly Library at Indiana University, Ricketts 177

Description: One fragment - Upper half of a leaf - Not bound. - Sir Thomas Phillips (1792-1872), part of his MS 22254; bought by Tregaskis at the Phillips sale, Sotheby's, 25 April 1911, lot 391; Tregaskis cat. 706 (1911), no. 17, and cat. 720 (1912), no 36; bought by C. L. Ricketts, and acquired by the Lilly Library with the Ricketts Collection in 1961. - Phillipps 1837-71, p. 414; Schenkl 1892, p. 147; De Ricci 1935, p. 644; Laistner and King 1944, p. 96; Colgrave and Mynors 1969, p. xliv, n. 5; Gneuss 1981, p.50, no. 797; Bischoff and Brown 1985, p. 317; O'Keefe 1987, p. 145, n.2; Stoneman 1997, pp. 101, 104 and 111; Bischoff 1998, p. 138, no. 647; Zechiel-Eckes 2003, p. 29.

Notes:-Fragment is upper half of a leaf recovered from a binding of an octavo volume, with a horizontal crease and paste stain across the lower edge.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 2

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/Ricketts177_40

Language: Latin *Country:* Germany *Century:* 9th

Part 1: One fragment, upper half of a leaf

Description: - Parchment - 151 x 197 mm - 18 lines here (of 28), ruled in blind, written-space here 135 mm. high (of approximately 210 mm.) by c. 142 mm.

Country: Germany

Cardinal point:

Region: Rhineland

City: Essen-Werden (Werden)?

Assigned Date: s. IX^{in}

Searchable Date Range: 800 - 815

Dated by scribe: No

Inscribed Date:

Document: No

Number of Scribes:

Script: Insular pointed minuscule

Notes: The Ricketts fragment was written within a century of Bede's life and it was formerly ascribed to England, s. VIII (Colgrave and Mynors 1969; Gneuss 1981). Superb example of Anglo-Saxon/Insular minuscule. The other half of the Lilly leaf is in the Universitätsund Landesbibliotek, Düsseldorf, K1:B216. The Düsseldorf half was a fragment recovered from the bindings of early printed books bound at the abbey of Werden, now a suburb of Essen. Between 1474 and about 1550 there was a bindery within Werden abbey, and many of the oldest books were cut up for re-use of the parchment in bindings, doubtless including the Lilly fragment of Bede. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: One fragment, upper half of leaf

Author: Bede

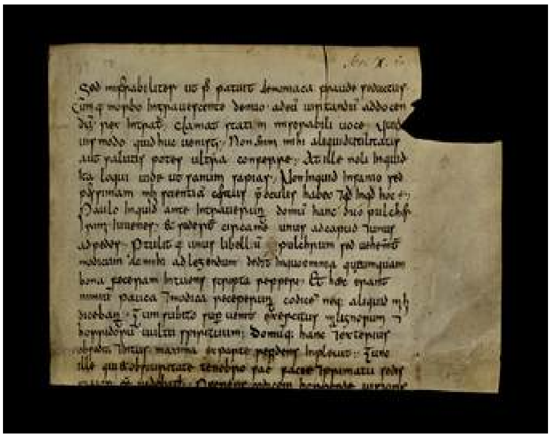
Title: Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum

Language(s): Latin

Incipit: Sed mirabiliter

Explicit: aetate bona

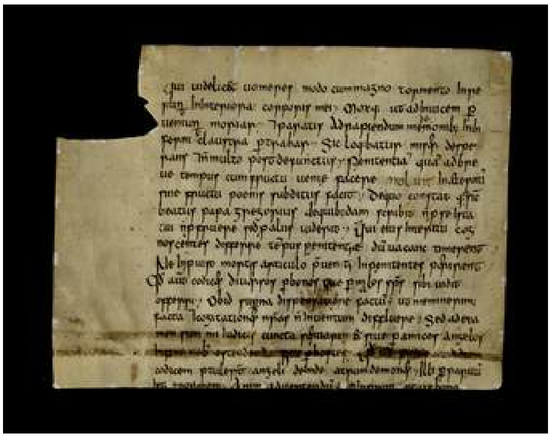
Notes: Text is from near the end of Bede's Historical Ecclesiastica book V, chapter 13. This passage is part of the account of a man who lies dying and has a vision of an angel and a devil, each carrying books recording the man's good deeds and his sins, one volume bound in white and the other in black. As such it is a rare literary reference to books and bookbindings in early eighth-century England. The Lilly Library's Poole 47 is another leaf of Bede's Historia Ecclesiastica German, s. IX, formerly Philipps (1852-1946) MS 13153.



Fragment recto Calligraphic insular pointed minuscule; recovered from a binding of an octavo volume, with a horizontal crease and paste stain across the lower edge. Bede’s Historia Ecclesiastica Book V. 13. beginning Sed mirabiliter

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Fragment verso calligraphic insular pointed minuscule; a piece torn from the upper outer margin; recovered from a binding of an octavo volume; Bede’s Historia Ecclesiastica book V. 13, breaking off aetate bona

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